Stock of foodgrains

379. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to raise the stock of foodgrains;

(b) if so, what is the present stock of foodgrains in the country;

(c) what target has been set for the storage of foodgrains in 1985-86; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The stocks of foodgrains with the public agencies as on 1-7-1985 are estimated at 29.17 million tonnes.

(c) and (d) During the year 1985-86, of the total capacity of 27.25 lakh tonnes targetted to be constructed by Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation, and State Warehousing Corporations, a capacity of 22.84 lakh tonnes is likely to be available for foodgrains.

Foodgrain allocations to State under NREP

380. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enhance the foodgrain allocation to States under the National Rural Employment Porgramme in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the provision made for this purpose for the above plan period; and

(c) the target set for implementing NREP in different States during the Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) Seventh Plan provisions, strategy and targets are yet to be finalised.

Allocations of sugar to Meghalaya

381. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of sugar allotted to Meghalaya during the year 1984-85; and

(b) what is the total quantum of levy sugar likely to be issued during the current financial year for that State?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The monthly levy sugar quota of Meghalaya being 609 tonnes, the total quantity of levy sugar allotted to that State during the financial year 1984-85 was 7308 tonnes. This excludes small quantities allotted for C.R.P.F., B.S.F., festivals etc. The same quanity of levy sugar is likely to be allotted to Meghalaya during the current financial year 1985-86 as per existing standard norms.

TV programme on sports

382. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a public demand for allotting more time on television for sports like football, cricket, tennis etc; and

(b) whether Government propose to include the above sports in the future programmes of the television?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is adequate sports coverage on television including all the sports such as football, cricket, tennis etc. However, due to constraints regarding availabilty of transmission time, it is not possible to substantially increase the time for sports programmes.